

Customer No. 27061
Confirmation No. 5745

Patent
Attorney Docket No. GEMS8081.023

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Durbin et al.
Serial No. : 09/681,017
Filed : November 22, 2000
For : METHOD AND SYSTEM TO REMOTELY ENABLE
SOFTWARE-BASED OPTIONS FOR A TRIAL PERIOD
Group Art No. : 3621
Examiner : Calvin Loyd Hewitt II

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a) and 1.10

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

- Mailing**
- ☐ deposited with the US Postal Service in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
- 37 CFR 1.8(a) 37 CFR 1.10**
- ☐ with sufficient postage as first class mail ☐ As "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label No.
- Transmission**
- ☐ transmitted by facsimile to Fax No.: 571-273-8300 addressed to Examiner Calvin Loyd Hewitt II at the Patent and Trademark Office.
- ☒ transmitted by EFS-WEB addressed to Examiner Calvin Loyd Hewitt II at the Patent and Trademark Office.

Date: March 26, 2007

/Lisa I. Ehaney/
Signature

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

I, being duly sworn, depose and say:

1. That I am one of the inventors for the above-identified Patent Application;
2. That I have reviewed the claims of this Application;
3. That I conceived the invention as set forth in the aforementioned claims in the United States prior to December 15, 1999, the effective date under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) of the cited United States Patent No. 6,668,375;

4. That, prior to said date, I conceived of a method by which software-enabled options may remotely be enabled. In accordance with the method, a user ID is received at a centralized facility from a user. An option-enabling request is also received from the user, specifying an option requested to be enabled in equipment at a subscribing station. At the centralized facility, it is confirmed that the option has not already been enabled. An enabling feature is then sent from the centralized facility to the equipment in the subscribing station, whereupon the option is activated in the equipment;

5. That, prior to said date, I also conceived of an option-enabling system. The system includes a subscribing station, which has at least one in-field product and at least one computer programmed to control the in-field product, and an on-line center capable of receiving and authenticating a user I.D., validating an option request, and creating an option key in response thereto. The system also includes a communications network to relay data from the on-line center to the subscribing station. The communications network has communications portions in both the on-line center and in the subscribing station, and is able to connect the on-line center to the subscribing station through an external communications network. Thus, the communications network can transmit the option key from the on-line center to the subscribing station in response to a user I.D. receipt and authorization, and a valid option request receipt;

6. That, prior to said date, I also conceived of a computer program which, when executed from a storage medium by a computer, causes the computer to receive an option-enabling request from a user to request an option to be enabled in a medical device located remotely from an on-line center and receive a system I.D. and validate the system I.D. with data from a database at the on-line center. The program also causes the computer to compare the option-enabling request with any other option requests for that system I.D. in the database at the on-line center and reject the option-enabling request if the comparison results in a predefined number of matches. If not, the program causes the computer to generate an option key and forward the option key to one of the user and the medical device to enable the option;

7. That, prior to said date, I also conceived of a method for enabling an option in a device. The method includes receiving a user I.D. at a centralized facility, receiving an option-enabling request specifying an option requested to be enabled in the

device at a subscribing station, and confirming that the option has not already been enabled. If the option has not already been enabled, the method provides that an enabling feature is sent from the centralized facility to the device in the subscribing station, and the option is activated in the device;

8. That a copy of an invention disclosure to my employer, prepared prior to December 15, 1999, evidencing conception of the invention is attached as Exhibit A;

9. That inventors Kun Zhang and Karamjeet Singh subsequently contributed to the invention by assisting in reduction to practice.

10. That from prior to December 15, 1999 to November 22, 2000, the filing date of the above-referenced Patent Application, we diligently worked with patent counsel in the preparation of a patent application for the claimed invention;

11. That the statements made herein are of my own knowledge and are true and made on information and belief that are believed to be true.

I acknowledge that any willful false statements and the like made herein are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Winnie C. Durbin

Winnie C. Durbin

Dated: 3/26/07

INVENTION DISCLOSURE1. **Disclosure ID (for completion by Legal Dept):** _____2. **Title:** Customer requested imaging product Software Options via InSite Interactive3. **Brief description:**

This enabler allows the customers to select limited use, pay per use or unlimited use licenses for software options packages from a web based product (such as InSite Interactive). This system will validate which product the request is coming from to ensure compatibility and shall allow for automated billing and tracking for that deployment.

4. **Creator(s):** (Additional names may be included on an attached "Additional Creators Listing")Total number of names listed: 2

2.2 Full Name: _____ Signature: _____
 Citizenship: _____ Date: _____
 Social Security Number: _____
 Company: _____
 Company Phone: _____
 Home Phone: _____
 Business E-Mail: _____
 Supervisor: _____
 Company employee? ☒ yes ☐ no (if no, employed by: _____)
 Home: _____
 Address _____
 City State Country Zip

by Full Name: _____ Signature: _____
 Citizenship: _____ Date: _____
 Social Security Number: _____
 Company: _____
 Company Phone: _____
 Home Phone: _____
 Business E-Mail: _____
 Supervisor: _____
 Company employee? ☒ yes ☐ no (if no, employed by: _____)
 Home: _____
 Address _____
 City State Country Zip

5. **Project:**5.1 The invention ☒ is ☐ is not part of a ☐ current or ☒ future project/product.5.2 **Project/product name (by which you or your colleagues would recognize it):**

5.3 The invention ☐ is ☒ is not ☐ part of or ☐ funded by a government project.

6. Significant Dates (provide approximate dates - "at least as early as" if unsure):

6.1 When and in what form was the invention first disclosed inside the company?
Feature on the Services and InSite Interactive roadmap

6.2 Has the invention been disclosed outside the company? If yes, to whom, when, and in what form?
No

6.3 Have any articles describing your invention been published? If yes, list author(s), title of article, publication and date.
No

6.4 Has any product using the invention been sold or offered for sale? If yes, to whom and on what date?
No

6.5 When will (or did) GE begin production of this invention?
TBD

7. Description/Disclosure (attach additional pages, sketches, specifications, etc., if available)

7.1 What is the general technological problem the invention is contemplated to overcome?

Restrict access to product application software and/or available options based on knowing the system type that is making the request. This system shall track availability and usage for trial, pay-per-use or permanent packages deployed and interface into a automated billing system.

7.2 Prior Art:

7.2.1. Identify related invention disclosures, patents or other publications describing similar ideas, and other companies working in the same field. Attach copies, if available.

None known of at this time

7.2.2. What is the closest technology, of which you are aware?

Currently software options are deployed to a customer site via InSite per a manual or phone request from a Sales rep. There are no ties to back-office systems for automatic tracking or billing.


7.3 Briefly describe the structure of the invention and how it works.

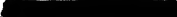
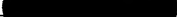













This invention will leverage existing web based connectivity (InSite Interactive) to the imaging product to allow the customer access to software options. The option available for that scanner type will be listed for purchase, pay-per-use, or limited use trial. From the selection, the package shall be deployed to the imaging product, then the billing systems and site configuration will be updated.

7.4 How is the invention different/better from prior solutions to this problem?

Currently there is no means for a customer to request a trial package without talking to a Sales Rep. There also is no means for a pay-per-use and automated billing from a customer request through the medical scanning device.

Witnesses: I have read and understood the information described above and in the attached  pages:

(1) Name:  Signature: 
Citizenship: 
Social Security Number:  Date: 
Company: 
Company Phone: 

(2) Name:  Signature: 
Citizenship: 
Social Security Number:  Date: 
Company: 
Company Phone: 